

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method of securing a tube to an engine housing using a clamping assembly, said method comprising:

securing a first strap clamp to the engine housing wherein the first strap clamp includes a first portion and a thicker second portion that extends unitarily from the first portion, such that the width of the clamping assembly is substantially constant through the clamping assembly, and such that a lower surface of the first portion is substantially co-planar with a lower surface of the second portion includes a unitary elongate body that has a first portion, a second portion, and a third portion wherein the first portion is identical to the third portion and has an upper surface, a lower surface, and a thickness extending therebetween, and wherein the second portion extends between the first and third portions, and has an upper surface, a lower surface, and a substantially constant thickness extending therebetween that is greater than the thickness of the first and third portions, wherein the second portion lower surface is substantially co-planar with the first portion lower surface; and

securing the tube to the first strap clamp with the a second strap clamp, such that at least a portion of the tube is retained between the first and second clamps.

2. (previously submitted) A method in accordance with Claim 1 wherein securing the tube to the first strap clamp further comprises bending the second strap clamp around the tube to position a plurality of openings defined within the second strap clamp in substantial alignment with a plurality of apertures defined within the first strap clamp.

3. (previously submitted) A method in accordance with Claim 3 wherein securing the tube to the first strap clamp further comprises inserting at least two threaded fasteners through the openings into the apertures and tightening the second strap clamp to the first strap clamp.

4-19. (canceled)

20. (currently amended) A method in accordance with Claim 1 wherein securing the tube to the first strap clamp further comprises securing the tube to the first strap clamp such that the tube is secured against only the second portion of the ~~first strap clamp~~ first strap clamp.

21. (original) A method in accordance with Claim 1 wherein securing the tube to the first strap clamp further comprises using a stainless steel second strap clamp to secure the tube to the first strap clamp.

22. (original) A method in accordance with Claim 1 wherein securing the tube to the first strap clamp further comprises using a substantially rectangular second strap clamp to secure the tube to the first strap clamp.